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No 284

Lexington. February 9th 1812.

Dr. Colonel,

In the execution of my design to return no more to that country as one of its Citizens I have settled myself in this place and shall not see you again until April at which period I shall visit your country for the last time. I much hope that your kindness to me on my departure from St Louis, and my failure to return as early as I anticipated at that time, have occasioned you no inconvenience. I should much regret it if it has and in that event (otherwise I know it would not be necessary) I must throw myself upon your goodness and plead the change of unforseen events which have altered my resolution with relation to my earlier return. In April I shall see you at Camp, settle with you and in person thank you for the past. In this country we talk of nothing but commotions, political and territorial -

A thousand and a thousand times have our modern Alexanders talked Quebec into ruins and Canada into subjection; like the man of faith in the bible they can walk upon the waves. Thus would they pop the St Lawrence. It grieves me to hear them talk in this way. Men who expect facilely of conquest, prepare not their minds for hardships and toil. Canada is not to be won in a day.

My respects to your family, and for yourself accept my warmest assurances of friendship.

Wm H. D. Whittenden.

F.L.B.10

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Col.

Daniel Bissell.

Camp Belle Fontaine.

Near St Louis.